

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 XMB-02 DOTE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 AID-05 /031 W

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P 071146Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8041

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA BPRO BEXP GB

SUBJ: POSSIBLE VISIT TO U.S. BY GOG OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 167755

1. EMBASSY CAN CONFIRM THAT OCTRA DIRECTOR CHARLES TSIBAH WILL VISIT U.S. BEGINNING JULY 19 FOR TEN TO FIFTEEN DAYS. HIS ITINERARY WILL INCLUDE TWO DAYS IN NEW YORK, TWO DAYS IN WASHINGTON, AND TWO TO THREE DAYS IN CHICAGO. HE MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD BE CALLING ON EXIM BANK TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FINANCING OF CATERPILLAR EQUIPMENT (REF. STATE 135400) AND ON CATERPILLAR COMPANY.

2. TSIBAH PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH A COPY OF A LETTER FROM COMMON MARKET FORWARDERS, INC., 17 BATTERY PLACE, NEW YORK, N.Y. CONCERNING PURCHASE OF SIX GENERAL ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES, THREE TO BE READY IN AUGUST AND THE REMAINDER IN SEPTEMBER. ACCORDING TO LETTER, EXPORT PERMIT FOR THE LOCOMOTIVES EXPIRED JUNE 30 AND CMF REQUESTED GOG'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING AN EXTENSION. TSIBAH WILL PROBABLY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IN WASHINGTON.

3. TSIBAH ASSURED EMBASSY THAT HE WILL PROVIDE PRECISE TRAVEL PLANS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE U.S. EMBASSY WILL CABLE INFORMATION AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

4. EMBASSY UNABLE CONFIRM VISIT BY CLAUDE DAMAS. WE HAVE NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECORD OF VISA APPLICATION BY DAMAS, AND HE DID NOT MENTION

PROPOSED U.S. VISIT AT DINNER LATE LAST WEEK. ECONOFF WILL
TRY TO REACH DAMAS AT HIS OWENDO OFFICE TOMORROW MORNING
TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OF U.S. VISIT AND WILL FORWARD INFORM-
QON BY IMMEDIATE CABLE. STEIGMAN

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